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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON
NOV 17, 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Transfer of the SAMOS Development Program to the Department of the Air Force

REFERENCE: Memo for SecDef from SECAIR, 6 Nov 59, Subject as above.

In accordance with the request contained in the referenced memorandum, transfer of program responsibility for SAMOS from the Advanced Research Projects Agency to the Department of the Air Force is approved effective immediately.

It is understood that the program will be conducted essentially in accordance with current ARPA plans pending approval of an Air Force Development Plan to be submitted to theDirector of Defense Research and Engineering by 15 Janaury 1960. It is requested that the revised development plan emphasize physical recovery and provide the initial launch of a recoverable payload well in advance of the present schedule (early FY '62). It is further requested that additional steps beyond the current ARPA development plan toward the achievement of other objectives in the SAMOS program and that steps beyond the Research and Development phase be held in abeyance pending specific approval from my office.

It is also understood that theAIr Force will submit to me by 15 January 1960, in accordance with the referenced memorandum, an operational plan for the SAMOS system including details of user relationships.

Separate action will be taken by ASD (Compt) to arrange for the necessary adjustments in the appropriate FY '60 and FY '61 funds.

/s/ Gates
DEPUTY

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